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# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

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**SUBJECT**

### Georg Dertinger's Opinion on the Schuman Plan

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. [REDACTED] Georg Dertinger (Foreign Minister of the Soviet Zone Government) said that his Government was convinced that Schuman's plan for a Franco-German industrial alliance would be adopted and that, as a result of the recent London Three-Power Conference, a rapid and thorough rearming of Western Europe would take place, in which Western Germany would be indirectly involved.
2. The results in Western Germany would be similar to those in the years 1933-35 when Hitler's rearmament programme put an end to large-scale unemployment. The reason for this was that, even if the direct production of armaments were to be confined to France and to any other Western European countries which might meanwhile associate themselves with the scheme, the larger part of the industrial and consumer goods production of these countries would be switched to Western German industry.
3. The Government of the DDR realized, Dertinger said, that this would inevitably have its effect on social developments in Western Germany, and the task of exploiting the social unrest and the conquest of Western Germany by National Front propaganda would become increasingly difficult. The best one could hope to achieve in this field in the future would be to delay as much as possible the development of the scheme both in Western Germany and in the rest of Western Europe.

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